

Happy Birthday Dagmar! Since you are undertaking a health project, a renovation project and who knows what else this year, with all the planning and activities entailed, I thought you could use an off-the-grid calendar.

This is a series of photographs I took in Vermont as “Corona Calendar” following my arrival at Betsy’s on March 20, 2020, as the pandemic began. On that morning, Betsy had called telling me to pack and jump on the next bus; a 140-unit rooming house was not the place to be. Two hours later I was on a bus to Norwich with only my courier bag, expecting to be back in Boston within three months. Disoriented at being yanked out of my life, I decided to record my pandemic experience by taking a daily photograph outdoors around Betsy’s place. The landscape would be a clock which I would pair with pandemic statistics as they mounted. On March 22nd I took the first photographs, and recorded: US ~ cases: 15,219; deaths: 201; Worldwide ~ cases: 292,142; deaths: 12,783. By May 13th it had become: US ~ cases: 1,322,054; deaths: 79,634; Worldwide ~ cases: 4,179,424; deaths: 287,399.

On May 17th I abandoned looking up the daily stats. Going into surrounding fields and woods carrying a camera that made me look closely for a few hours a day had become a fascination for its own sake. My other fascination was Karl Marx’s *Capital*. Abruptly, on November 3rd, I lost all desire to continue. It may have been the pandemic surging again, maybe depression. I forced myself out with my camera only twice more, November 7th and 9th. The Corona photo files have been sitting in their dated folders untouched until I got the notion of making a calendar for your birthday this January.

I imagined illustrating each week in your calendar with a photo taken within that same week of 2020. But that wouldn’t work—I had only taken 225 sets of daily photos, starting before your birthday on April 10th. What photos would I use for the remaining weeks? Peter Valentine’s fence? Incongruous. Worse still, by the time I finished designing the calendar, it was May, a month past your birthday. A continuous arc of change had been the whole point. I decided not to fragment the memoir, but to slow down the landscape photos of under eight months to stretch over the whole year of this calendar. So the pictures are out of sync with the year from May 8, 2023 through May 19, 2024. But they do show how March grew into November in Norwich, Vermont around Betsy’s house in that year, 2020.

Oh well!



■ MAY 8

MON

■ MAY 9

TUE

■ MAY 10

WED

■ MAY 11

THU

■ MAY 12

FRI

MAY 13 ■

SAT

MAY 14 ■

SUN

birthday of my father, Klaus



 MAY 15

MON

 MAY 16

TUE

 MAY 17

WED

 MAY 18

THU

 MAY 19

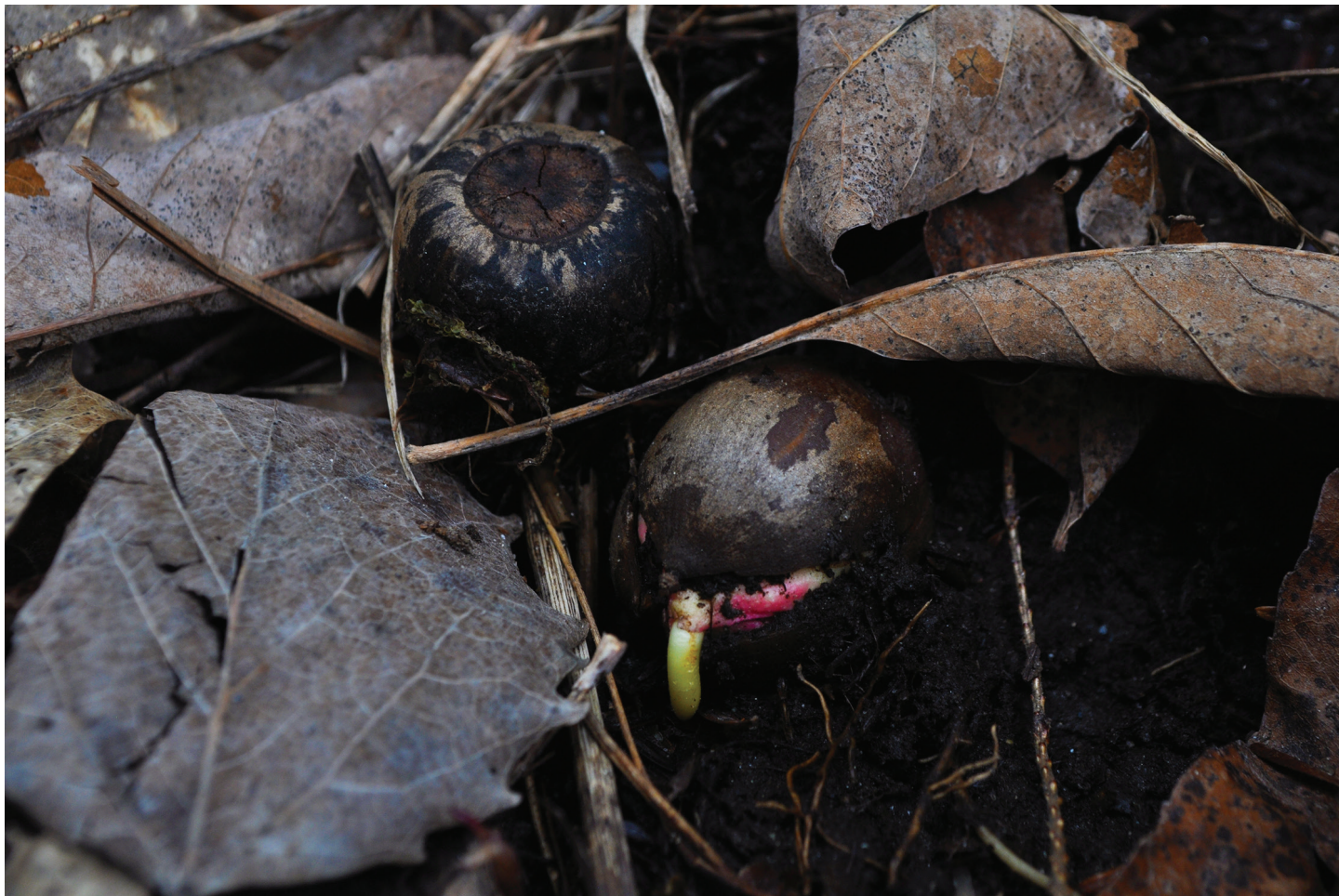
FRI

MAY 20 

SAT

MAY 21 

SUN



 **MAY 22**

MON

birthday of Chris Eccles

MAY 27 

SAT

 **MAY 23**

TUE

 **MAY 24**

WED

 **MAY 25**

THU

 **MAY 26**

FRI

MAY 28 

SUN



 MAY 29

memorial day

MON

 MAY 30

TUE

 MAY 31

WED

 JUN 1

THU

 JUN 2

FRI

JUN 3 

SAT

JUN 4 

SUN



 JUN 5

MON

 JUN 6

TUE

 JUN 7

WED

 JUN 8

THU

 JUN 9

FRI

JUN 10 

SAT

birthday of Tasha

JUN 11 

SUN



 JUN 12

MON

 JUN 13

TUE

 JUN 14

WED

 JUN 15

THU

 JUN 16

FRI

JUN 17 

SAT

*birthday of
Lydia*

JUN 18 

SUN



 JUN 19

MON

juneteenth

JUN 24 

SAT

 JUN 20

TUE

birthday of Susan

 JUN 21

WED

 JUN 22

THU

 JUN 23

FRI

JUN 25 

SUN



<div><div>MON</div><div>JUN 26</div></div>	<div><div>JUL 1</div><div>SAT</div></div>
<div><div>TUE</div><div>JUN 27</div></div>	
<div><div>WED</div><div>JUN 28</div></div>	<div><div>birthday of Tony</div></div>
<div><div>THU</div><div>JUN 29</div></div>	<div><div>birthday of Deborah</div></div>
<div><div>FRI</div><div>JUN 30</div></div>	<div><div>JUL 2</div><div>SUN</div></div>



MON JUL 3

TUE JUL 4

WED JUL 5

THU JUL 6

FRI JUL 7

Independence day

SAT JUL 8

SUN JUL 9



<div><div></div><div>JUL 10</div></div> <div>MON</div>	<div>JUL 15<div>SAT</div></div>
<div><div></div><div>JUL 11</div></div> <div>TUE</div>	
<div><div></div><div>JUL 12</div></div> <div>WED</div>	<div><i>birthday of</i> Hilda</div>
<div><div></div><div>JUL 13</div></div> <div>THU</div>	
<div><div></div><div>JUL 14</div></div> <div>FRI</div>	<div>JUL 16<div>SUN</div></div>



 JUL 17

MON

 JUL 18

TUE

 JUL 19

WED

 JUL 20

THU

 JUL 21

FRI

JUL 22 

SAT

JUL 23 

SUN



 JUL 24

MON

 JUL 25

TUE

 JUL 26

WED

 JUL 27

THU

 JUL 28

FRI

JUL 29 

SAT

JUL 30 

SUN



 JUL 31

MON

 AUG 1

TUE

 AUG 2

WED

 AUG 3

THU

 AUG 4

FRI

AUG 5 

SAT

AUG 6 

SUN



 **AUG 7**

MON

 **AUG 8**

TUE

 **AUG 9**

WED

 **AUG 10**

THU

 **AUG 11**

FRI

AUG 12 

SAT

AUG 13 

SUN



 **AUG 14**

MON

 **AUG 15**

TUE

 **AUG 16**

WED

 **AUG 17**

THU

 **AUG 18**

FRI

AUG 19 

SAT

AUG 20 

SUN

birthday of Frank Eccles

Leah and Isaac



 **AUG 21**

MON

 **AUG 22**

TUE

 **AUG 23**

WED

 **AUG 24**

THU

 **AUG 25**

FRI

AUG 26 

SAT

AUG 27 

SUN



 **AUG 28**

MON

 **AUG 29**

TUE

 **AUG 30**

WED

 **AUG 31**

THU

 **SEP 1**

FRI

SEP 2 

SAT

SEP 3 

SUN



SEP 4

MON

labor day

SEP 9

SAT

SEP 5

TUE

SEP 6

WED

SEP 7

THU

SEP 8

FRI

SEP 10

SUN



■ SEP 11

birthday of Sam

MON

SEP 16 ■

SAT

■ SEP 12

TUE

■ SEP 13

WED

■ SEP 14

birthday of Isaac

THU

■ SEP 15

FRI

SEP 17 ■

SUN



SEP 18

MON

SEP 19

TUE

SEP 20

WED

SEP 21

THU

SEP 22

FRI

SEP 23

SAT

SEP 24

SUN



■ SEP 25

MON

birthday of Betsy

■ SEP 26

TUE

■ SEP 27

WED

■ SEP 28

THU

■ SEP 29

FRI

SEP 30 ■

SAT

OCT 1 ■

SUN



<div><div></div><div>OCT 2</div></div> <div>MON</div>	<div>OCT 7<div>SAT</div></div>
<div><div></div><div>OCT 3</div></div> <div>TUE</div>	<div><i>birthday of Carmen</i></div>
<div><div></div><div>OCT 4</div></div> <div>WED</div>	
<div><div></div><div>OCT 5</div></div> <div>THU</div>	
<div><div></div><div>OCT 6</div></div> <div>FRI</div>	<div>OCT 8<div>SUN</div></div>



<div><div></div><div>OCT 9</div></div> <div>MON</div>	columbus day	<div><div></div><div>OCT 14</div></div> <div>SAT</div>
<div><div></div><div>OCT 10</div></div> <div>TUE</div>		
<div><div></div><div>OCT 11</div></div> <div>WED</div>		
<div><div></div><div>OCT 12</div></div> <div>THU</div>		
<div><div></div><div>OCT 13</div></div> <div>FRI</div>	birthday of Basti	<div><div></div><div>OCT 15</div></div> <div>SUN</div>



 OCT 16

MON

 OCT 17

TUE

 OCT 18

WED

 OCT 19

THU

 OCT 20

FRI

OCT 21 

SAT

OCT 22 

SUN



 OCT 23

MON

 OCT 24

TUE

 OCT 25

WED

 OCT 26

THU

 OCT 27

FRI

OCT 28 

SAT

OCT 29 

SUN

birthday of Tante Therese



 OCT 30

MON

 OCT 31

TUE

halloween

 NOV 1

WED

 NOV 2

THU

 NOV 3

FRI

NOV 4 

SAT

daylight
savings
2:00 am

NOV 5 

SUN



■ NOV 6

MON

■ NOV 7

TUE

■ NOV 8

WED

■ NOV 9

THU

■ NOV 10

FRI

NOV 11 ■

SAT

veterans' day

NOV 12 ■

SUN



■ NOV 13

MON

■ NOV 14

TUE

■ NOV 15

WED

■ NOV 16

THU

■ NOV 17

FRI

NOV 18

■ SAT

NOV 19

■ SUN



MON	NOV 20	NOV 25	SAT
TUE	NOV 21		
WED	NOV 22		
THU	NOV 23	thanksgiving	
FRI	NOV 24		SUN
		NOV 26	



■ NOV 27

MON

■ NOV 28

TUE

■ NOV 29

WED

■ NOV 30

THU

■ DEC 1

FRI

DEC 2 ■

SAT

DEC 3 ■

SUN



■ DEC 4

MON

■ DEC 5

TUE

■ DEC 6

WED

■ DEC 7

THU

■ DEC 8

FRI

DEC 9 ■

SAT

saint niklaus

DEC 10 ■

SUN



<div>DEC 11</div> <div>MON</div>	<div>DEC 16</div> <div>SAT</div>
<div>DEC 12</div> <div>TUE</div>	
<div>DEC 13</div> <div>WED</div>	
<div>DEC 14</div> <div>THU</div>	<div>birthday of Frances</div>
<div>DEC 15</div> <div>FRI</div>	<div>DEC 17</div> <div>SUN</div>



 DEC 18

MON

birthday of my brother, Dirk

 DEC 19

TUE

 DEC 20

WED

 DEC 21

THU

 DEC 22

FRI

DEC 23 

SAT

*birthday of
Christine*

DEC 24 
SUN



<div>DEC 25</div> <div>MON</div>	<div>christmas</div>	<div>DEC 30</div> <div>SAT</div>
<div>DEC 26</div> <div>TUE</div>		
<div>DEC 27</div> <div>WED</div>	<div>birthday of my mother, Heidrun Uta</div>	
<div>DEC 28</div> <div>THU</div>		
<div>DEC 29</div> <div>FRI</div>		<div>DEC 31</div> <div>SUN</div>



 JAN 1

new year's day

MON

 JAN 2

TUE

 JAN 3

WED

 JAN 4

THU

 JAN 5

FRI

JAN 6 

SAT

JAN 7 

SUN



 JAN 8

MON

 JAN 9

TUE

 JAN 10

WED

 JAN 11

THU

 JAN 12

FRI

JAN 13 

SAT

JAN 14 

SUN



 JAN 15

[martin luther king day](#)

JAN 20 

MON

SAT

 JAN 16

TUE

 JAN 17

WED

 JAN 18

THU

 JAN 19

FRI

JAN 21 

SUN



 JAN 22

MON

 JAN 23

TUE

 JAN 24

WED

 JAN 25

THU

 JAN 26

FRI

JAN 27 

SAT

JAN 28 

SUN



 JAN 29

birthday of Helen Eccles

MON

 JAN 30

TUE

 JAN 31

WED

 FEB 1

THU

 FEB 2

FRI

FEB 3 

SAT

FEB 4 

SUN



 FEB 5

MON

 FEB 6

TUE

 FEB 7

WED

 FEB 8

THU

 FEB 9

FRI

FEB 10 

SAT

FEB 11 

SUN



<div><div></div><div>FEB 12</div></div> <div>MON</div>	<div>lincoln's birthday</div>	<div>FEB 17</div> <div>SAT</div>
<div><div></div><div>FEB 13</div></div> <div>TUE</div>	<div>mardi gras</div>	
<div><div></div><div>FEB 14</div></div> <div>WED</div>	<div>valentine's day</div>	<div>birthday of Amber</div>
<div><div></div><div>FEB 15</div></div> <div>THU</div>		
<div><div></div><div>FEB 16</div></div> <div>FRI</div>		<div>FEB 18</div> <div>SUN</div>



 FEB 19

presidents' day

FEB 24 

MON

SAT

 FEB 20

TUE

 FEB 21

WED

 FEB 22

THU

 FEB 23

FRI

FEB 25 

SUN



 FEB 26

MON

 FEB 27

TUE

 FEB 28

WED

 FEB 29

THU

 MAR 1

FRI

MAR 2 

SAT

MAR 3 

SUN



<div><div></div><div>MAR 4</div></div> <div>MON</div>	<div>MAR 9<div>SAT</div></div>
<div><div></div><div>MAR 5</div></div> <div>TUE</div>	
<div><div></div><div>MAR 6</div></div> <div>WED</div>	
<div><div></div><div>MAR 7</div></div> <div>THU</div>	<div>daylight savings 2:00 am</div>
<div><div></div><div>MAR 8</div></div> <div>FRI</div>	<div>international women's day</div> <div>MAR 10<div>SUN</div></div>



<div><div></div><div>MAR 11</div></div> <div>MON</div>	<div>MAR 16<div></div>SAT</div>
<div><div></div><div>MAR 12</div></div> <div>TUE</div>	
<div><div></div><div>MAR 13</div></div> <div>WED</div>	<div><div>birthday of Sofia</div></div>
<div><div></div><div>MAR 14</div></div> <div>THU</div>	<div><div>saint patrick's day adoption day of Frances</div></div>
<div><div></div><div>MAR 15</div></div> <div>FRI</div>	<div>MAR 17<div></div>SUN</div>



 MAR 18

MON

 MAR 19

TUE

 MAR 20

WED

 MAR 21

THU

 MAR 22

FRI

MAR 23 

SAT

MAR 24 

SUN



<div><div></div><div>MAR 25</div></div> <div>MON</div>	<div>MAR 30<div>SAT</div></div>
<div><div></div><div>MAR 26</div></div> <div>TUE</div>	
<div><div></div><div>MAR 27</div></div> <div>WED</div>	<div>easter</div>
<div><div></div><div>MAR 28</div></div> <div>THU</div>	<div><i>birthday of Uncle Frank</i></div>
<div><div></div><div>MAR 29</div></div> <div>FRI</div>	<div><i>birthday of Isabel</i></div> <div>MAR 31<div>SUN</div></div>



■ APR 1

MON

■ APR 2

TUE

■ APR 3

WED

■ APR 4

THU

■ APR 5

FRI

APR 6 ■

SAT

APR 7 ■

SUN



MON	<div><div></div>APR 8</div> <div><i>birthday of Cobber</i></div>	APR 13 <div>SAT</div>
TUE	<div><div></div>APR 9</div> <div><i>birthday of Sigi</i></div>	
WED	<div><div></div>APR 10</div> <div><i>birthday of Dagmar, myself!</i></div>	
THU	<div><div></div>APR 11</div>	
FRI	<div><div></div>APR 12</div>	APR 14 <div>SUN</div>



■ APR 15

MON

patriot's day / boston marathon

■ APR 16

TUE

birthday of Joyce

■ APR 17

WED

■ APR 18

THU

■ APR 19

FRI

APR 20 ■

SAT

APR 21 ■

SUN



 APR 22

MON

 APR 23

TUE

 APR 24

WED

 APR 25

THU

 APR 26

FRI

APR 27 

SAT

APR 28 

SUN



<div>■ APR 29</div> <div>MON</div>	<div>MAY 4 ■</div> <div>SAT</div>
<div>■ APR 30</div> <div>TUE</div>	<div>walpurgis eve</div> <div>birthday of Jeffrey</div>
<div>■ MAY 1</div> <div>WED</div>	<div>walpurgis day</div>
<div>■ MAY 2</div> <div>THU</div>	<div>birthday of</div> <div>Grandfather</div> <div>Wilhelm</div>
<div>■ May 3</div> <div>FRI</div>	<div>MAY 5 ■</div> <div>SUN</div>



<div><div></div><div>MAY 6</div></div> <div>MON</div>	<div>MAY 11<div>SAT</div></div>
<div><div></div><div>MAY 7</div></div> <div>TUE</div>	
<div><div></div><div>MAY 8</div></div> <div>WED</div>	<div>mothers' day</div>
<div><div></div><div>MAY 9</div></div> <div>THU</div>	
<div><div></div><div>MAY 10</div></div> <div>FRI</div>	<div>MAY 12<div>SUN</div></div>



 MAY 13

MON

 MAY 14

TUE

 MAY 15

WED

 MAY 16

THU

 MAY 17

FRI

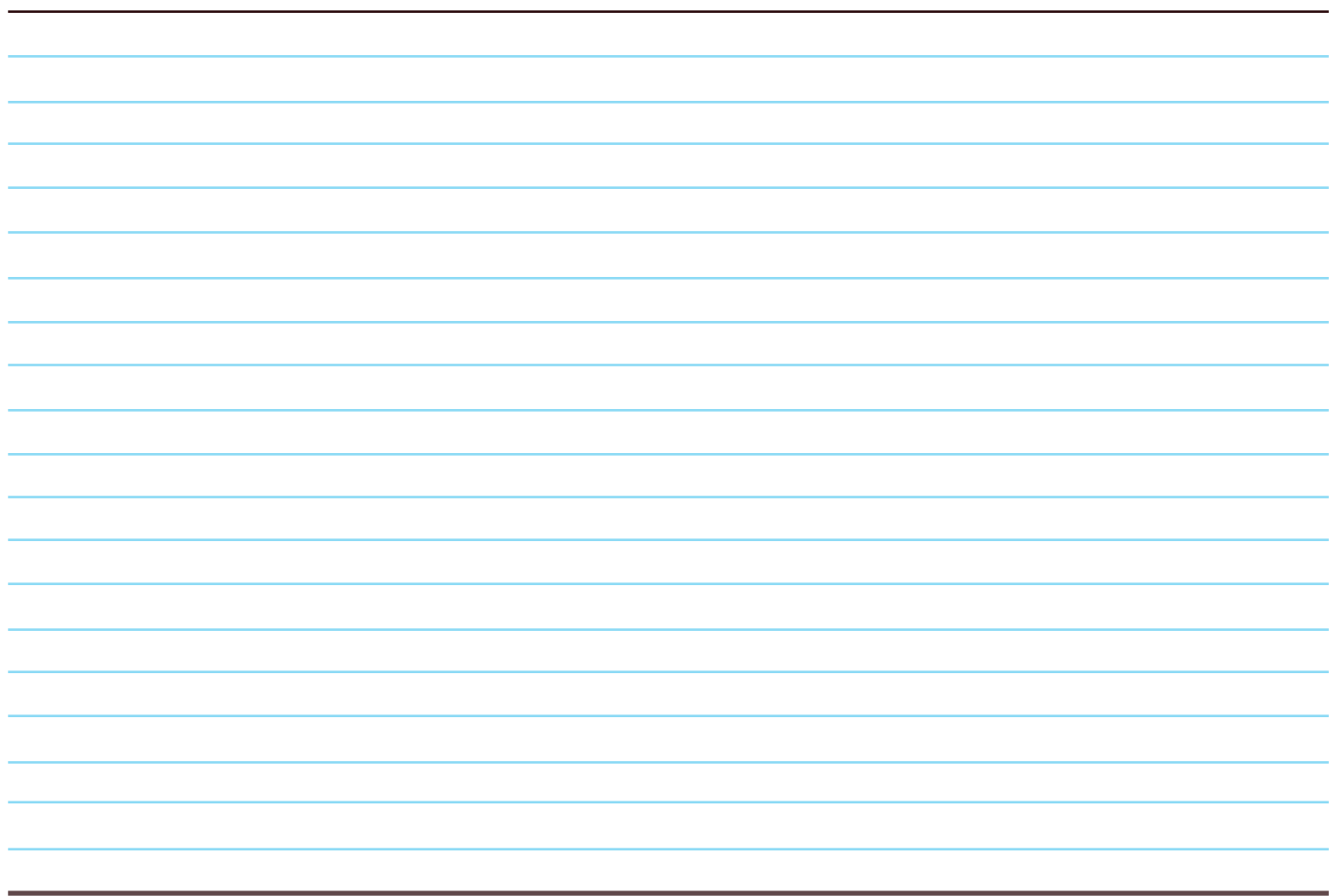
MAY 18 

SAT

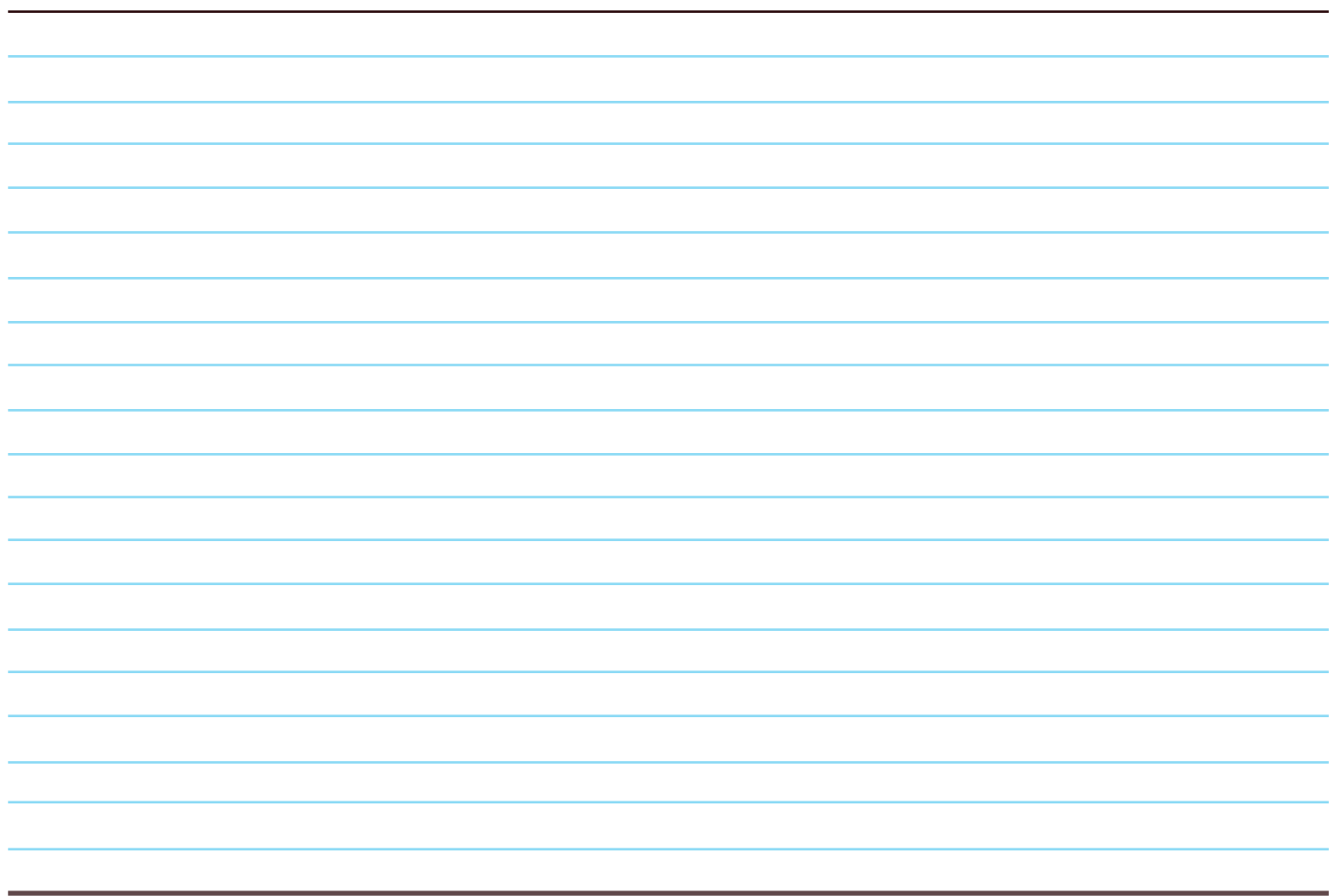
MAY 19 

SUN

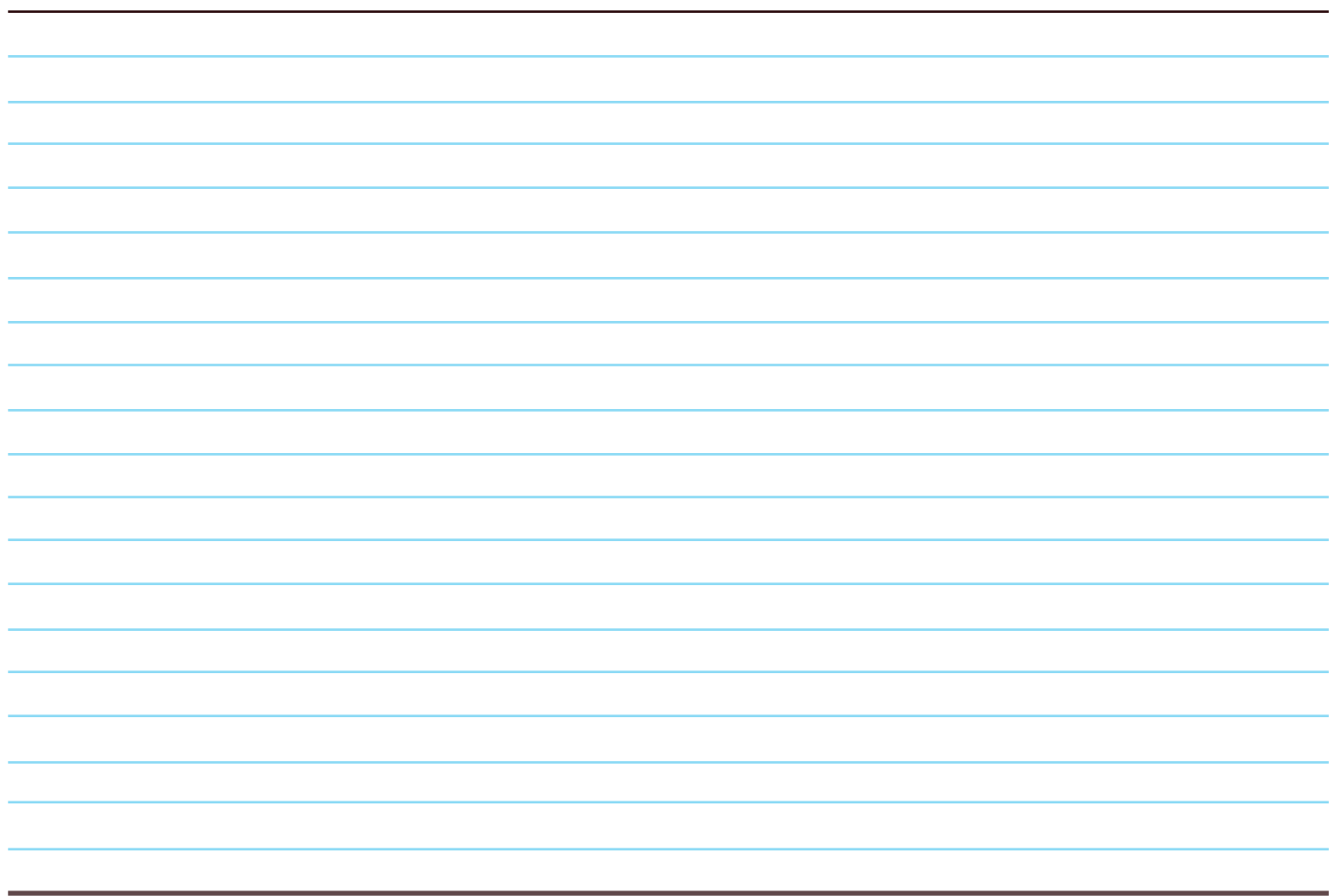




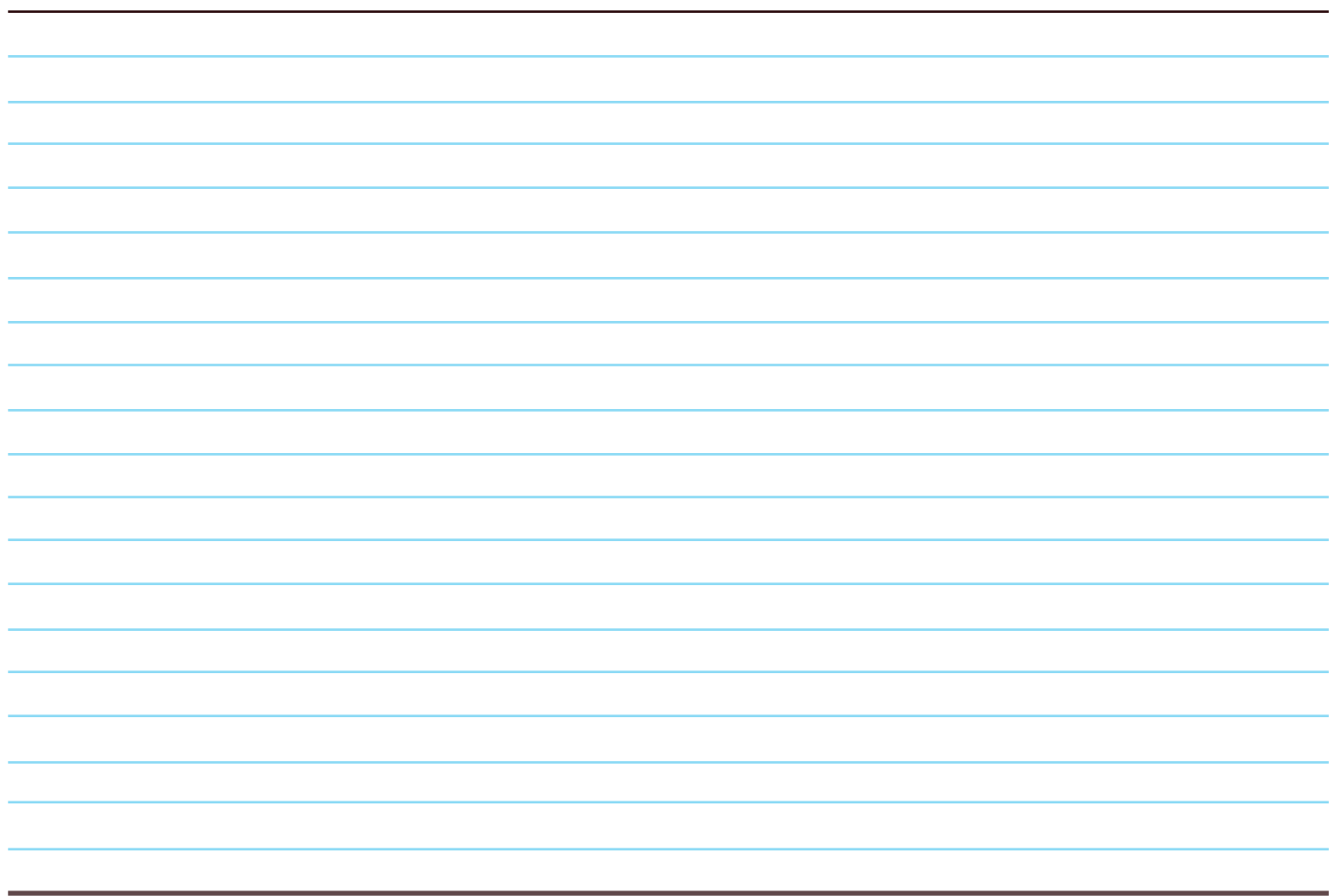




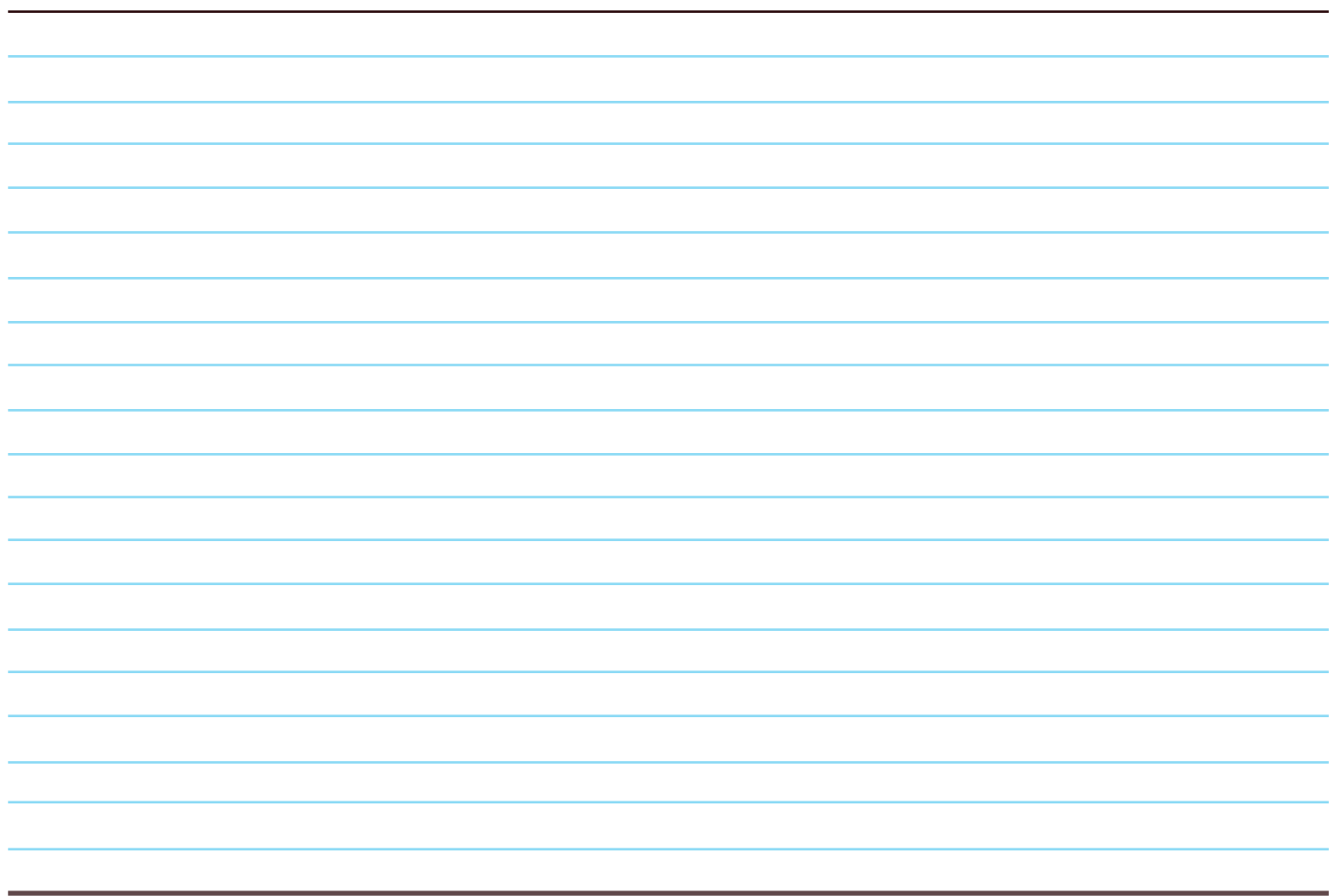




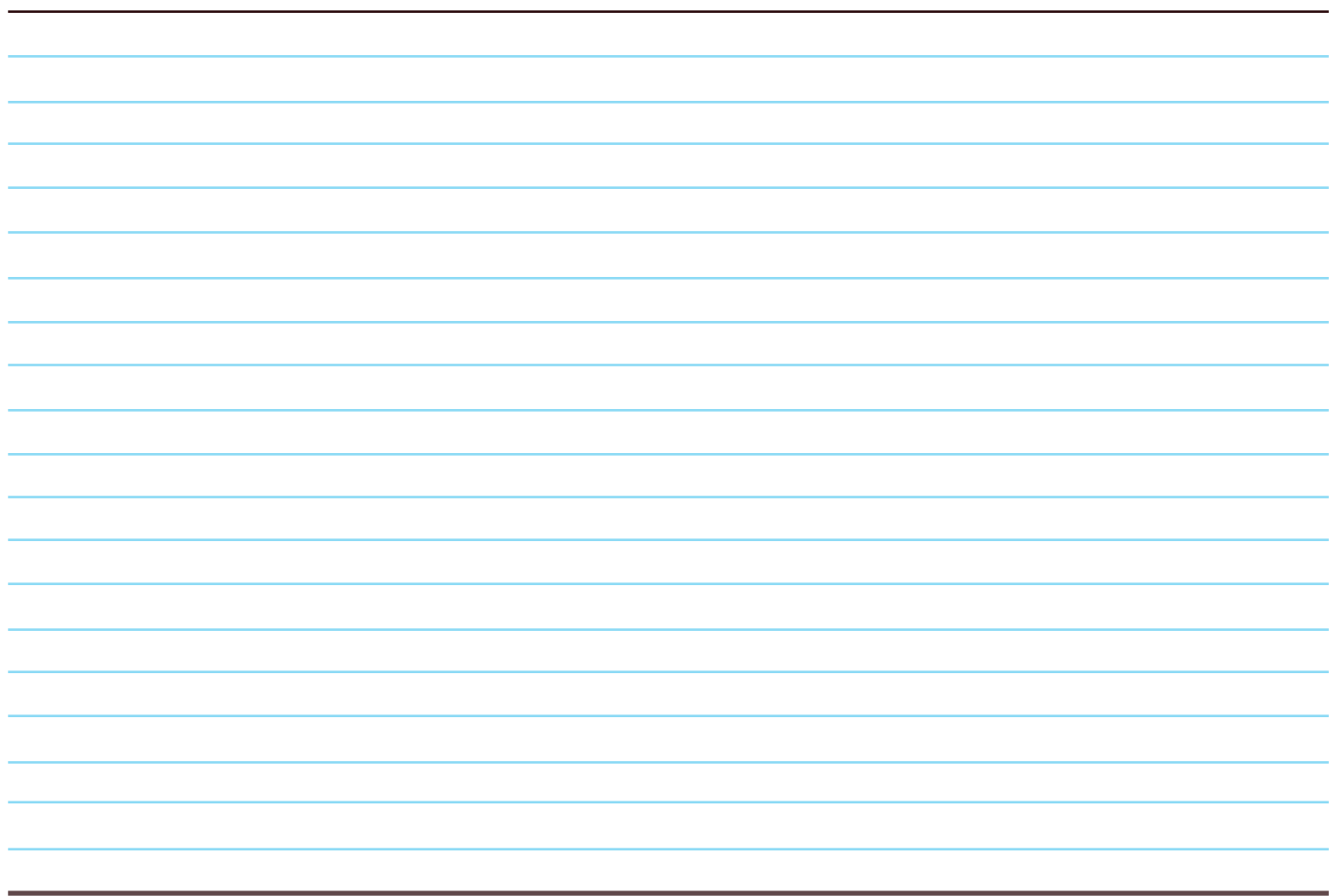




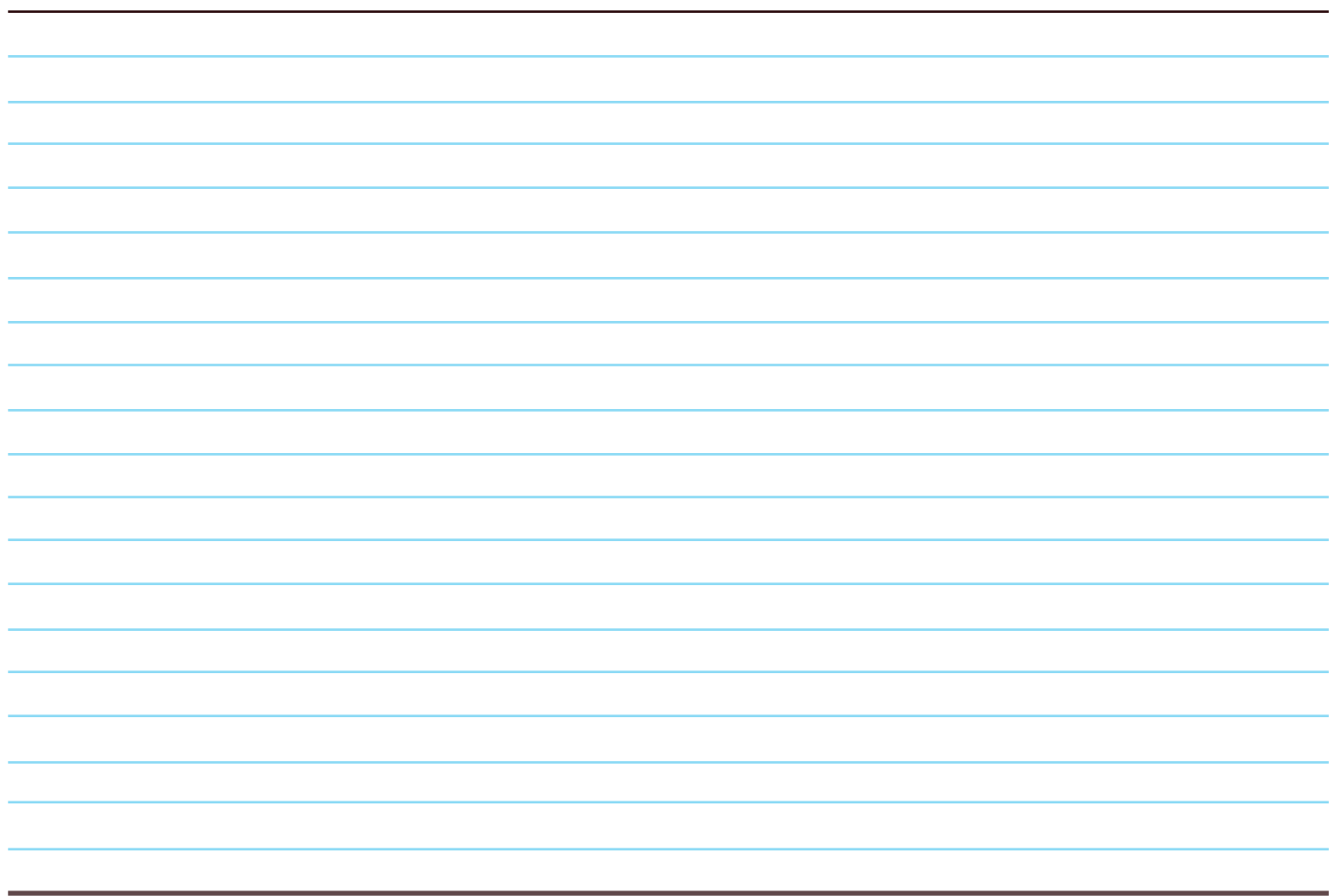




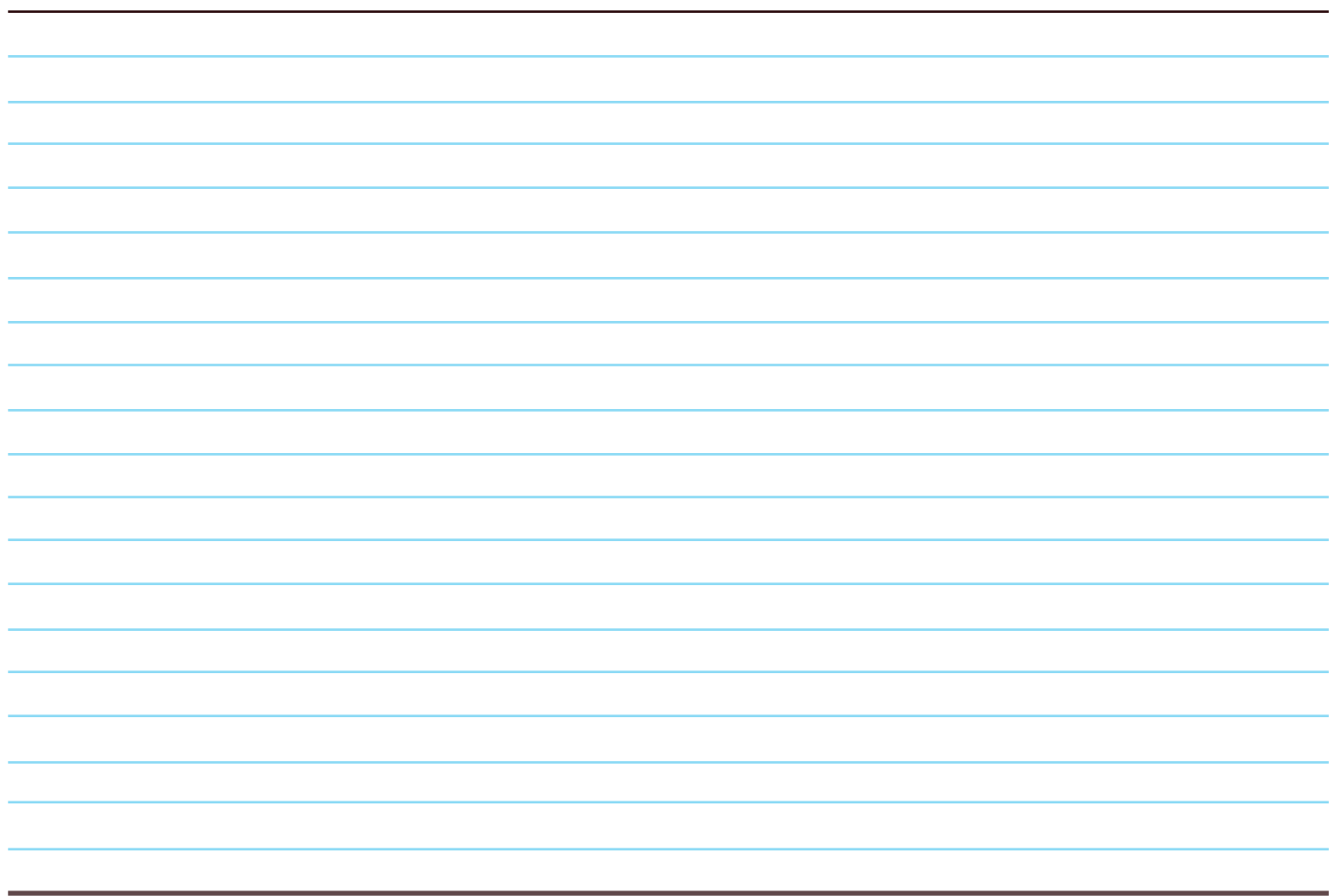




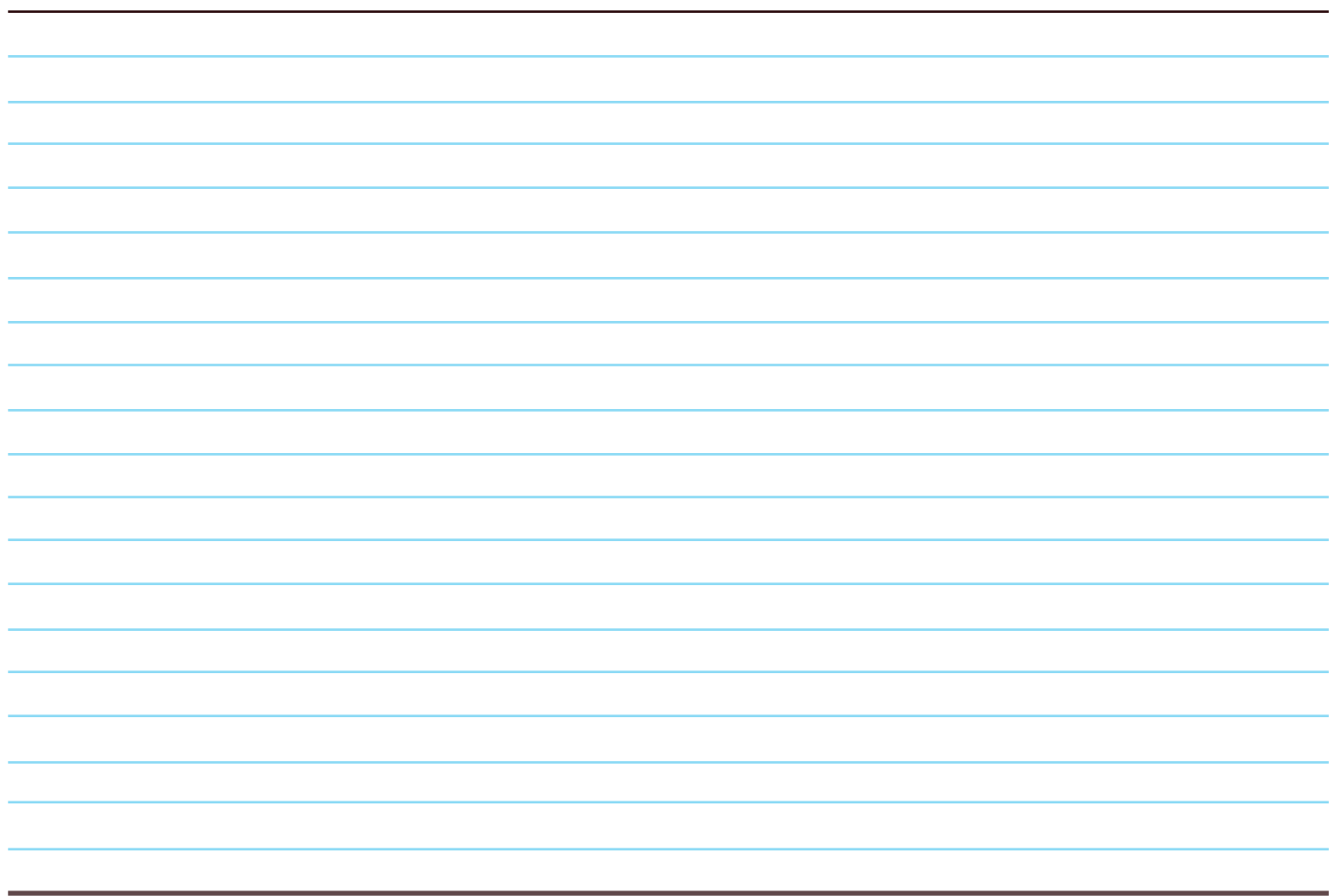




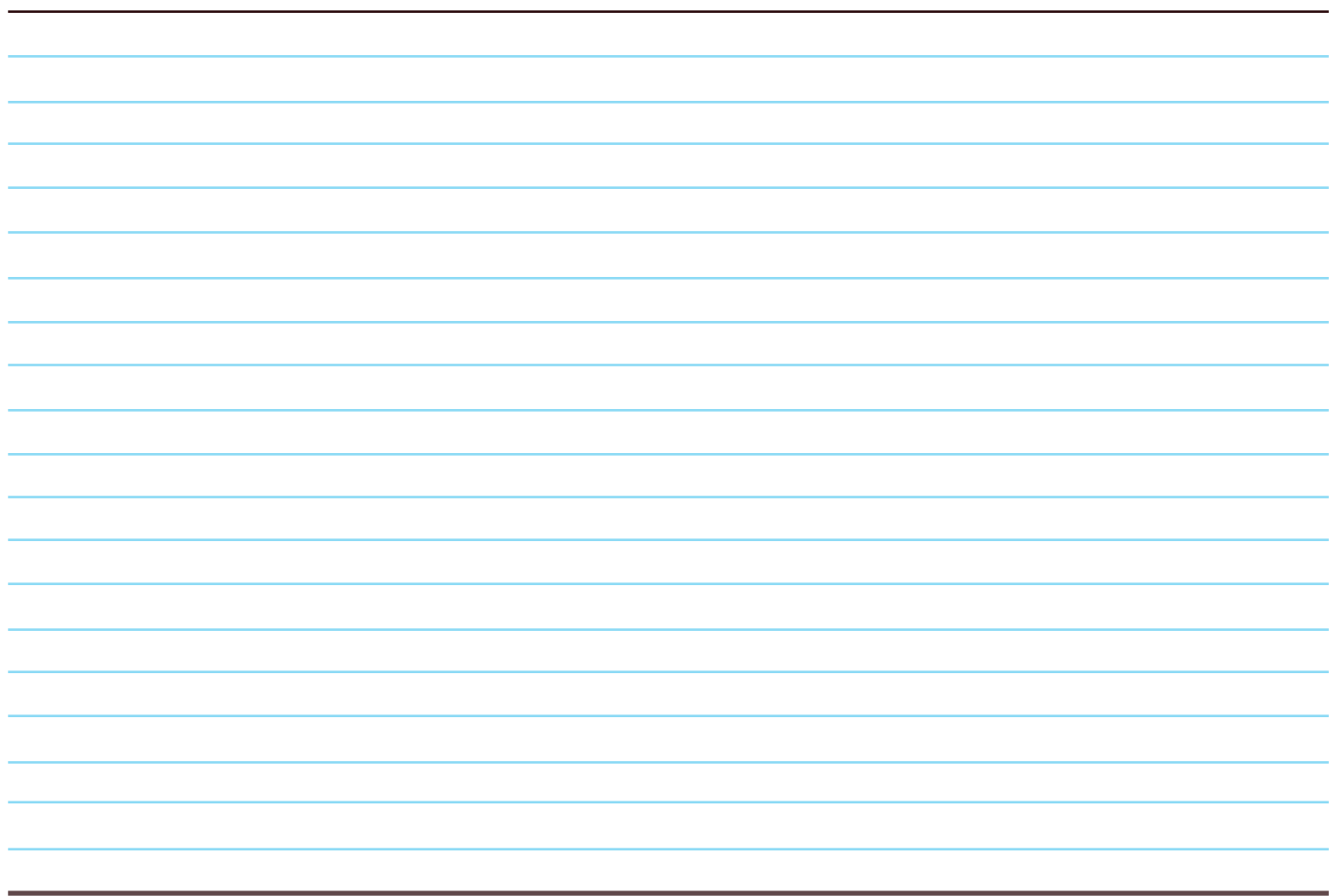




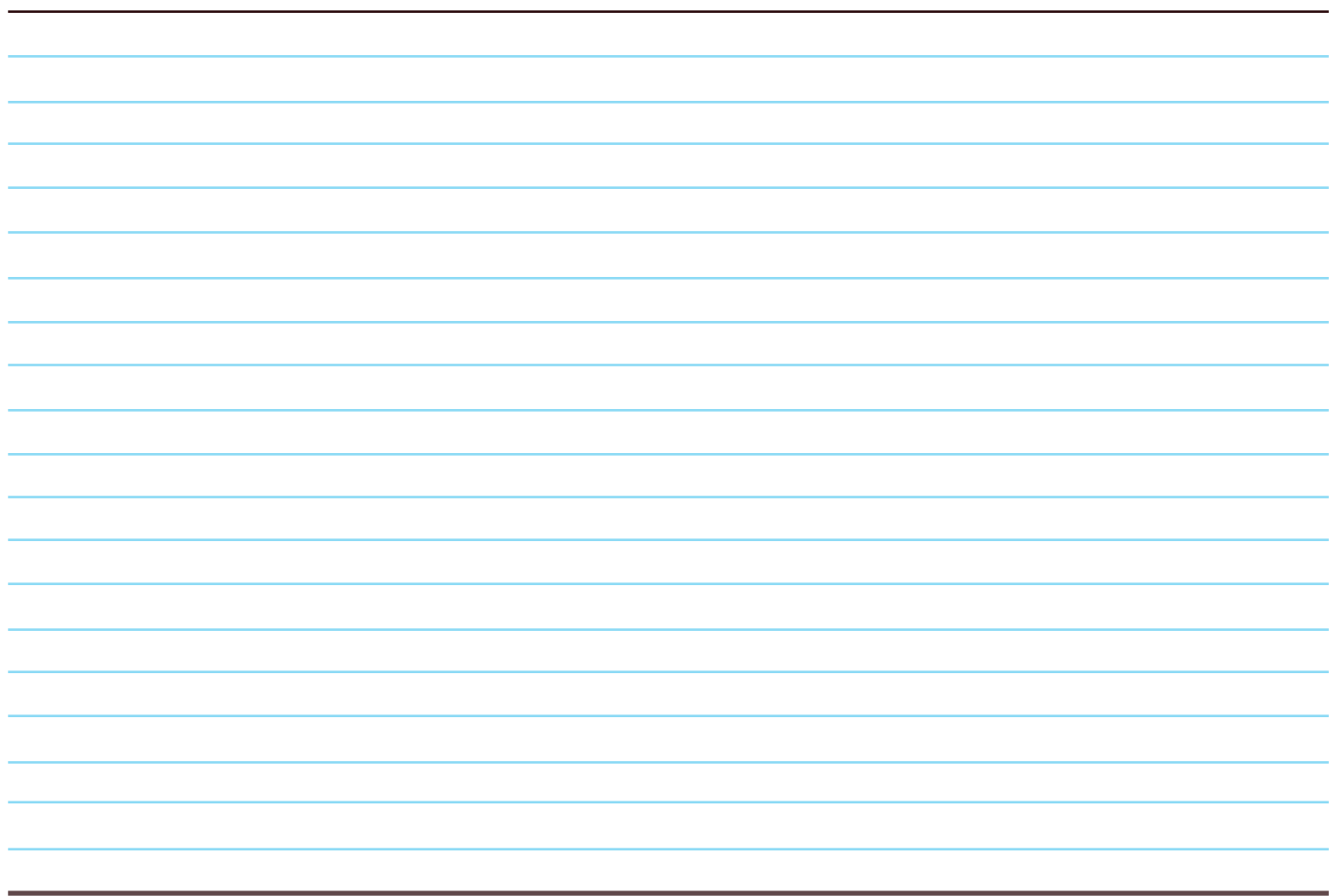












When I get into the woods, I go into an altered state, a little hypnotized, almost immediately. Sometimes I feel dizzy and have to sit down. I'm not sure if it's the woods, or the fact that I am going on alert.

The woods is a kind of clock because each day, as it warms up, something new is going on. I used to actively search for something interesting, but lately I sit quietly and wait something to come to my attention.

The more time I spend there, the more disturbed I am by anything that disregards it: machine noises echoing across the landscape from far away, marks of chain saws, massive truck-wheel tracks striating the ground. These seem military and assaultive.

I breathe odors of growth, decay, blossoms, fungus and mud. Deer come crashing through. Tiny creatures—flowers, insects—are surreal and abstract, like engineer's drawings or science fiction. There seems less difference between plants and animals and myself.

How is it all synchronized?

NATURE IS ON OUR SIDE